

TRAITS	SCORES											
	4			3			2			1		
	High	Average	Low	High	Average	Low	High	Average	Low	High	Average	Low
<b>Ideas</b>											X	
<b>Organization</b>												X
<b>Voice/Word Choice</b>											X	
<b>Sentence Fluency</b>										X		
<b>Conventions</b>										X		

<b>Ideas</b>	<p>A response is attempted.</p> <p>Student does not understand that expository writing must offer support of main ideas with details.</p> <p>Does not understand topic clearly.</p>
<b>Organization</b>	<p>Organization is limited to one short paragraph.</p> <p>No evidence of introduction, body or conclusion.</p>
<b>Voice and Word Choice</b>	<p>Word choice is limited with little awareness of audience.</p> <p>Voice is not present.</p>
<b>Sentence Fluency</b>	<p>Student is aware of sentence structure.</p> <p>“It can be a good thing because you can learn from it.”</p> <p>Sentences lack transitions.</p>
<b>Conventions</b>	<p>Student has some understanding of standard usage and conventions.</p> <p>Few spelling errors are evident.</p> <p>“some on”, “because”.</p>
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Student has attempted to address prompt, but lacks a clear understanding of the term “peer pressure,” and has little understanding of essay development.</p>

<b>MR</b>  <b>938</b>	STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA		
	<b>ROUND 1</b> T: ___ R: ___ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ROUND 2</b> T: ___ R: ___ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FINAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

There are many ways to experience peer pressure. Someone can either give in to peer pressure or someone can be under peer pressure. Someone can be under peer pressure by listening to your friends by doing something you shouldn't. There are many examples that I could give, but there are three ~~main~~ main topics that I would like to talk about.

The first topic is drinking and driving at the same time! There is many reasons not to do this it would hurt if you crashed. IF you crashed you would hurt your self and the people in the car. You could also hurt the people around you. IF you get caught by the police you could get hard time for what you did.

The second topic is stealing. That is the worst thing you could do. like on the movie holes the kid stole a pair of shoes that were selling for 5,000 dollars and

he still took them. IF someone can not afford a pair of shoes, and he can get them the next day he still steals them because he wants them now.

The third topic is when someone is doing drugs. When someone does drugs ~~etc~~, IF they have a job doing construction and there on drugs they could kill a lot of people if they don't do it right.

**MR****940**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1****ROUND 2****FINAL**

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer Pressure

Peer Pressure can be a negative or a positive thing. But I think that Peer Pressure is a negative way of getting someone to do something that they don't want to do, or having them do something dangerous, and sometimes people even do things they would never do.

One reason peer pressure is negative is it can make you make your friends do something that they would never do and probably get hurt doing it. For instance they can talk you into going to a party. At the party they'll probably talk you into drinking and everyone will be doing it so what's the harm right? Wrong you can get sick from drinking or even die and maybe you might drive and injure someone.

Another reason peer pressure is negative is when your friends want you to do something then they'll keep talking about it until you do

what they want you to, even if you don't want to do it. Like they can talk you into stealing something. But if you do then you'll probably get caught and have to pay the consequences all for one mistake you made by doing what they told you to do, all because you wanted to fit in or something.

Also peer pressure can be negative because maybe your friends want to do something dangerous like jump off a 75 foot bridge. But they want you to do it first, and you get hurt. You can get injured badly or even die if you miss what you were aiming for, or even just because it's a bad jump.

As you can see peer pressure is a bad way to get someone to do something that they might regret later on down the road. Like doing something they would never do, something they don't want to do, or even something dangerous.

2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

**MR**

**942**

**STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA**

**ROUND 1**

**ROUND 2**

**FINAL**

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

A monumental part of living, especially as a teenager, in this day and age is feeling the blowing force of peer pressure. Often times, peer pressure can be a negative opponent in life, putting excess pressure on people to participate in activities that appear "cool", such as drug abuse or smoking, but are truly harmful. However, peer pressure can also be helpful.

As a teenager, I know friends are often the paramount priority in life. They are also my greatest influences, which is why I try hard to befriend those with high standards I can trust. If friends aren't doing drugs or participating in risky activities, it is easier to refrain from those harmful risks. Instead, a teenager will be surrounded by those people that held to higher standards and practice abstinence from such behaviors.

Another way in which peer pressure can positively affect life is the influence role models have on peers or adherents. Children, teenagers, and adults alike have habits of wanting to live up to one person they find inspiring. A teenage girl with a desire to conform to the standards or qualities of a person she idolizes can help her to become a better person in her own eyes and in the eyes of those around her. She may feel

pressure from others to always better herself, and thus, will constantly be growing and changing as she realizes what she wants to be.

While good friends and role models are important influences, another pressure ranks high on the list: the always lurking possibility of embarrassing oneself in front of peers. Many people do not care what others think of them, but a larger number base their actions on peers' thoughts. Due to this undying desire to look "perfect," many will go to any extreme to succeed, such as eating disorders to conform to the growing belief that thin equals beauty. However, once a struggling teenager realizes she is happy with who she is, she will not feel the burdening pressure anymore. Because she was pushed to better herself, she came out a happier, more confident person.

It is a well known fact that peer pressure is a stressful ordeal felt by everyone, and can drive a person to any extreme. Anyone can overcome this pressing obstacle, however, simply by making trustworthy friends and having set standards for themselves. These people can come out of stressful pressure with a smarter outlook and a happier higher self esteem than ever before.

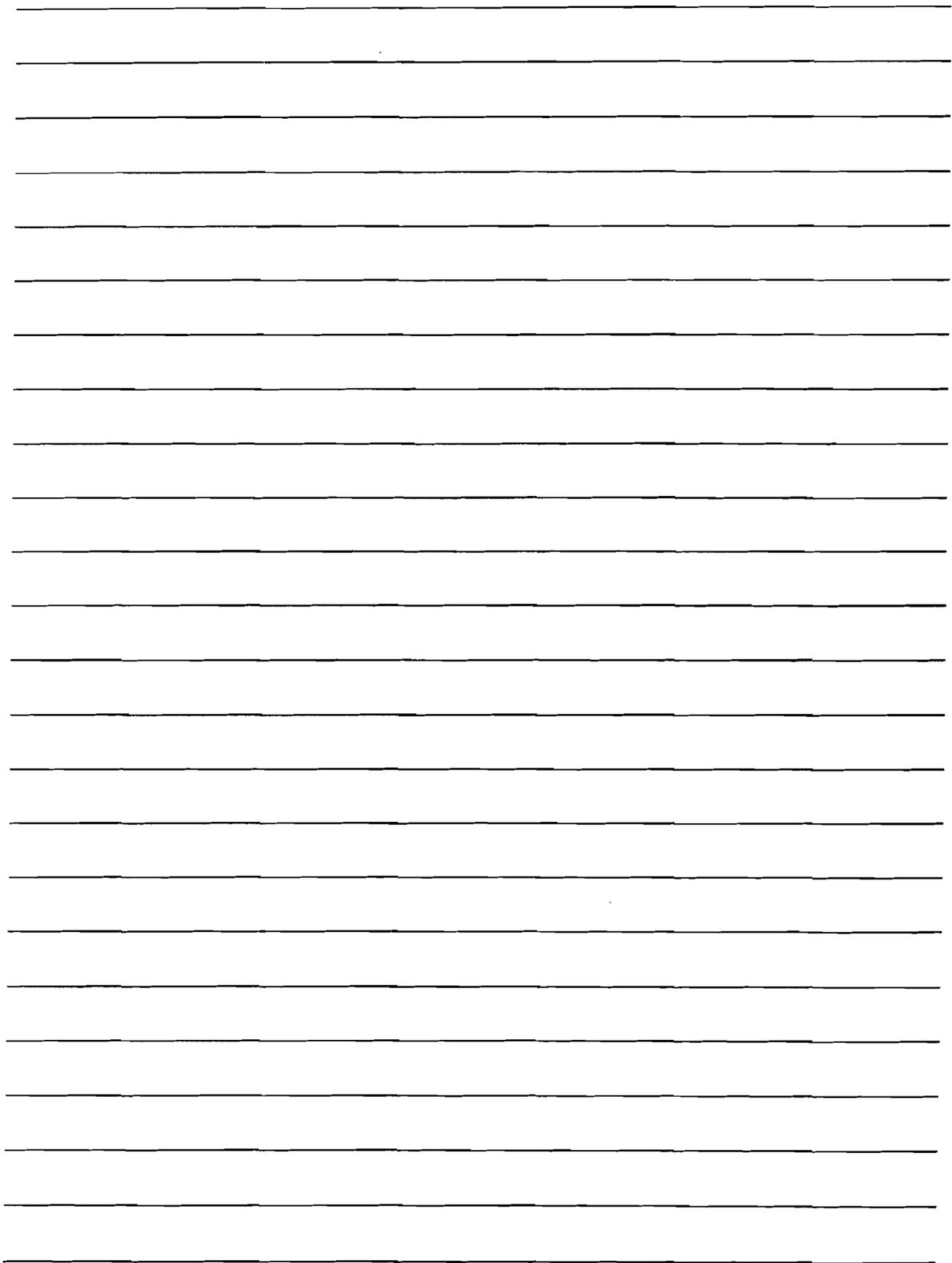
2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

<b>MR</b>  <b>985</b>	<b>STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA</b>		
	<b>ROUND 1</b> T: ___ R: ___ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ROUND 2</b> T: ___ R: ___ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FINAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

Peer pressure is negative because it is not nice to  
peer pressure a ~~rather~~ person it is not cool to do it  
but it make cool for other people to do it.

Why peer pressure is not fun to do it I would  
not do it because it would not be nice of me  
to do it. It would hurt me inside if I did it. I  
would be mad at myself. Who would I be  
if I did it to someone else it would be mean  
of me to do it. What would the consequences be  
if I did it would be nice for someone else to do it to me.

When it happens to me I would just eye roll them.  
How would you handle the seth you washan.



2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

**PS1**

**922**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

Peer pressure in today's society can prove both beneficial and damaging to our youth. Depending on the situation and type of peer standards, individuals can thrive, or more disappointingly, fail. I hope to illustrate both types of settings and the results they can offer.

Negative peer pressure is a sadly heavy influence. In our youth, it can force children and teenagers alike, who are raised in a world where peer pressure is common, to conform to what is considered 'normal' and expected of them. More often than not, these standards adolescents are expected to live up to, are not true in portraying the youth's real character, personality, and potential. Because of the extreme pressure they endure, these persons are constantly striving to be what their peers want them to be, instead of themselves. The direct effect of this is painful lack of self esteem. In other cases, peer pressure can convince an otherwise good person to turn to dangerous and illegal habits, such as use of drugs and consumption of alcohol.

In contrast, some peer pressure can have a positive influence.

When placed in a setting where standards of peer pressure require good habits, the individual can show a great increase in appropriate behavior and attitude. Particularly in academic settings, positive peer pressure can prove beneficial in encouraging students to assume responsibility and desire to achieve and excel. In other settings, where fads, trends and invasive media do not exist, individuals can become encouraged to find their own personalities and a comfort with individual, more likely to thrive.

In closing, peer pressure is more often than not viewed as a bad influence. Although much of it does have a negative effect on those exposed to it, not all is damaging. Some peer pressure is incredibly helpful. As with most things, peer pressure has two sides: good and bad. It is up to the individual to shield himself from the bad and open himself up to the benefits of the good.

**PS1****944**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

Peer pressure, is it good or bad? That's for you to think about. But most of the time it is bad.

If someone is pressuring their friend to do something then their not doing what they want to do. Think about it, are people going to let their friends make every choice for them every day of their lives.

Most peer pressure is bad because <sup>first</sup> of people are pressuring you to do something you don't want to do. Second it is more than likely going to be wrong. If friends are pressuring friends to have sex or steal hopefully they know it is wrong.

Peer pressure is not always bad, but most of the time it is. There's always going to be peer pressure. Hopefully people will make the right choice.

<b>PS1</b>  <b>974</b>	STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA		
	<b>ROUND 1</b> T: _____ R: _____ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ROUND 2</b> T: _____ R: _____ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FINAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

## Peer Pressure

When you hear someone mention peer pressure, the first thing you think is someone getting talked into something they do not want to do, but peer pressure can also be a good thing, when used correctly.

Peer pressure can be bad when someone # tries to talk someone else into doing something that they might regret later in life. Doing drugs, drinking alcohol, getting tattoos, or even getting talked into doing some trick off the high dive that may lead to you getting injured, are examples of this.

Peer pressure can also be a good thing, although most people think of it as being bad. Peer pressure can be ~~but~~ ~~when~~ good when you want to do something bad and your friends ~~tha'~~ talk you out of doing that thing. Good peer pressure may also be people cheering you on to take a shot at ~~the~~ a basketball game, or even motivation to finish a race in track or cross country, even though you are already exhausted, or are not sure

you can finish.

To sum it up, peer pressure can be used in good or bad ways, and is everywhere you go. I think we should ~~focus~~ stop encouraging people to do bad things and focus on the good side of peer pressure and encourage people to do good, or to finish that race.

2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

**PS1**

**982**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_




what I writing about is peer pressure, And either a positive or an  
 negative influence well the is a good side and a bad side, The good  
 side mean other trying to do something ~~bad~~ good. And there is something  
 bad about it the good side is when the person wants to do  
 something good, your friends will help you. But if you are  
 going to do something stupid it will be a problem really stupid,  
 the bad sides are doing something, your friends tell you do something  
 and you do it And you will be well set in trouble  
 with your friends, you will make bad decisions all your life but  
 during peer pressure it can be worse, but the good side is doing  
 something good. Like when you going to do a stupid  
 thing your friends will be there for you. instead of going something  
 bad and make a bad choice make good one and make a good  
 decision. And instead of making bad choices make a good  
 decision and not set into trouble if you had no friend there  
 we would not be peer pressure from one.

**PS2****951**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer Pressure

Teens often experience peer pressure. Peer pressure can be positive and, or negative. Teens are influenced with the most peer pressure in some peoples opinions. Peers experience and apply peer pressure daily whether it be used in a negative sense, like the influence of alcohol or drugs or a positive sense like the influence to get better grades. Peer pressure can be very good and just the opposite. In my opinion the negative peer pressure and you being able to make the right decision can be the difference between life and death. The decisions you make today can and will affect you for the rest of your life, every decision has its consequences. What I am saying is peer pressure is positive and negative like most things it can be used

in a good and bad way, and that  
you have to stick to your guns, and do what's  
right because peer pressure can be your enemy.

**PS2****956**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer pressure is the fermenting beast that lurks in every person. When someone is faced with persuasion from their peers they usually succumb to the ghastly side of peer pressure. The downfalls of this monstrosity known as peer pressure include loss of individuality, dignity, and life by trying to fit into the expectations of others.

The generality of the world starts out with a measure of individuality. It is in that individuality that makes every person unique. The strain of friends demanding conformity slowly abrogates the identity. Changing clothes, hair, attitude, or actions to fit into a mold erodes our originality.

Friends and family not only change who we are, they change what we do. Dignity and pride can only be preserved when acting and thinking as an individual. As our individuality wears out, our dignity goes with it. Acting in a tractable manner allows us to do things that would have never been done in any other setting. The process of committing the acts, and the acts themselves dismantle our eminence piece by piece.

Being easily led and committing shameful acts can cost more than a reputation or individuality. Doing something that lacks thought because friends or family are doing the same thing can cost a life. People try and fit into the expectations of others, and doing drugs or other foolhardy things are just examples of trying to conform for others.

Loss of individuality, dignity, and life are all negative side-effects of trying to become someone or something else to please another. Because of conformity and mannequinism lurking behind every corner, constant vigilance, preserving uniqueness, and sticking up making others accept who you are, are the only solution to abolishing the beast of coercion and peer pressure.

**PS2****966**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1****ROUND 2****FINAL**

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Have you ever been pressured into something you know you shouldn't be doing but you do it anyway? That's called peer pressure. Peer pressure can have many negative and positive effects on people. Most of the people my age experience negative peer pressure.

One important reason why peer pressure is negative is when people do drugs. When people get pressured into doing drugs, they can lose sight of their goals. When a person decides to do drugs, they probably won't go to or finish college. Some people who start doing drugs at an early age won't even graduate high school sometimes.

Another great reason why peer pressure is negative is people get pressured into stealing. When teenagers my age steal it can have many effects on their life. For example, if a person steals something that's very valuable or expensive, they could be sent to juvenile detention or do community service. Being put into juvenile detention can hold you back from

what you wanted to accomplish.

The last but certainly not least is getting involved with some type of group or gang. When you get involved with a group or gang, you're bound to get into some type of trouble. If a person were to get involved in a gang it could ~~be~~ hurt the people you love and like. ~~##~~ Your friends probably wouldn't want to hang out with you, and your family wouldn't want to see you for fear they might get ~~##~~ hurt.

In conclusion, I stand by my statement that peer pressure has a ~~##~~ negative impact on teenagers' daily lives. The best way not to get involved is to say no and move on.

**PS2**

**983**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1**

**ROUND 2**

**FINAL**

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

From peer pressure you can learn. It can be a good thing because you can learn from it. It can also be a bad thing because you could do something stupid and hurt someone or even kill someone. Every person has peer pressure including little kids. Negative peer pressure would be like shoving someone. Positive peer pressure would be helping them.

**PS3****936**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1****ROUND 2****FINAL**

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

## Peer Pressure

Peer pressure can have a positive or negative influence on people. It can be positive by encouraging them, or it can be negative by trying to make them do something they don't want to do or don't feel comfortable doing.

Peer pressure in general is most likely going to be negative because you are pressuring someone to do something. Although it is possible to positively pressure your peer by encouraging them, negative peer pressure is much more common in most conversations. It is very easy to get out of hand in talking to your peers.

Negative peer pressure can actually be very harmful to the peer that you are pressuring. You may not realize it, but you could be pressuring someone to do something that their parents specifically said not to do or their religious beliefs say that it's not right. It's OK to talk to your

friends about doing stuff, but don't pressure them to do it if they feel strongly that their answer is no.

On the other hand, positive peer pressure can be very helpful to a friend. It can boost their confidence and their self-esteem. Maybe a friend wanted to try out for a play, but ~~they~~ decided not to because she thought she wasn't good enough. You told her that she was amazing and that she should really think twice about her decision. She thinks about it, tries out, and gets the part. She will really be confident for whatever comes her way.

As you can see, peer pressure can be both negative and positive. You just need to be careful on how you present your-self to your peers.

<b>PS3</b> <b>941</b>	STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA		
	<b>ROUND 1</b> T: _____ R: _____ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ROUND 2</b> T: _____ R: _____ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FINAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

why might time school is better then daytime school?  
 well i think night time school is better then  
 daytime school, because we can sleep and get  
 lots of rest during the day and at night  
 we can go to school and learn. Plus during  
 the day it's kinda hard because we have  
 to get up really early in the morning eat  
 food before we have to go to school, stand  
 outside in the freezing cold, and wait  
 for the bus to come. At night we can  
 learn better then what we can during  
 the daytime were more awake at night  
 then what we are in the morning time.  
 Night school better because we can do our  
 better. It's hard during the morning time  
 for teenagers and teachers too.

That's why i think night school then daytime  
 school. Maybe it's also good for the teachers  
 too, because they are always gramp with

us students. They always say that they all get up early in the morning like five or six. They need to get sleep and they also can do more things in the day. Like pay bills, Christmas shopping, or other things.

Why does almost every teenager have to go to school? Why does those 16 or 17 year old drop out when they were so close to being done with school. Could of went to night school because its kinda easier on them instead of daytime school. We should choose if we want to go to night school if we all want to.

**PS3****954**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Have you ever been tempted by peer pressure?  
I know I have. I think that peer pressure is a  
negative influence because that is the reason I  
took my first drink of alcohol.

One night when some of my friends and I  
were in \_\_\_\_\_, we went over to a house that  
was having a big party. At this particular  
party everyone was having an exciting and fun  
time; well that was everyone except for me, because  
before I knew it my friends had poured some  
alcohol into my pop that I was drinking while I  
wasn't looking. Later that night when they  
offered me the alcohol I accepted it, because  
by then I wasn't all there. The rest of  
the night from that point on is just a blur.

The result from my incident in the previous  
paragraph, ~~about~~ about me drinking, made it so I  
never wanted or will drink again in my life. That  
morning I woke up, ran to the bathroom, and

threw up for just about a half an hour, and then I laid in bed for the rest of the day. Every bone, muscle, joint, and everywhere else on my body ached and throbbed all day.

I strongly believe that peer pressure is a negative influence because you are with all of your close friends in some cases, and they make you feel like you don't belong with them because whatever they are doing is the cool thing to do. Whenever I am with my friends, if I don't do what they are doing they start to insult and antagonize me until I give in.

Those are my major reasons why I think that peer pressure is a negative influence.

**PS3****961**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer pressure everyone takes place in it some how. Whether their the one causing it, or having it done to them. In this essay I will talk about three ways peer pressure is a negative influence.

First you and a group of friends were in a grocery store. And they all saw something they liked. So they decided to still it. But you did not like that idea. So they talked you into it. Until you gave in and said yes.

Another example would be if all the people in your group were smoking and drinking. But you didn't want to and all they did was call you mean names and tell you how cool it was

to smoke and drink. Eventually most people would give in to peer pressure and say OK and try it.

Finally if you wanted to go see a movie with a friend. And neither of you had enough money so you decided to sneak in. But your friend didn't want to. So you finally talked him into it by using peer pressure.

In conclusion, every one has experienced peer pressure some how. Whether their the ones causing it or its being done to them.

**PS3****965**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1****ROUND 2****FINAL**

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer pressure can be a positive or negative thing. It is mostly a negative thing because someone can pressure into something illegle. Like smoking, drinking, or doing something illegle.

If you are at a party someone with probably ask if you want a beer. Then they will keep saying stuff like c'mon it won't hurt you. But it can and will.

Also someone will want you to try a smoke. They will ~~try~~ say try one and keep saying all of this stuff. For example like it won't hurt you or it's not illegale, but it is until you are 21 years old.

Another thing that someone will want you to do it is something illegale. Like egging someone's hause, steal something from someone's house, throwing eggs at cars, steal from a store, vandalize, and ~~some~~ something like steal a car.

When you are in those situations just

Say no and walk away. Call your parents to go home and then go find a friend. Also until you are 18 you can't smoke. When you are 21 you can smoke and drink. But vandalizing, theft, and egging are always illegal.

**PS3****978**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1****ROUND 2****FINAL**T:  R:  T:  R: 

School is a highly complex maze leading to the rest of your life. Your job: get through it. Peers/friends: your map. The best way of having a positive influence to help you get through school is to associate with the right people. Who are the right people? A few suggestions are people involved in extra-curricular activities, people who exceed academically, and people who keep well away from illegals like drugs and alcohol.

When I was in junior high, it seemed as if there were hundreds of different activities and programs to be involved in. My friends helped to influence me to play soccer and basketball, join the cross country team, and run for student body vice president. With this help from my friends and involvement in extra-curricular activities, I was able to spend my junior high years out of trouble. Having good friends that will influence you to be involved in extra-curricular activities is an excellent type of positive peer pressure. The time spent in a physical activity or other school program is time not spent getting into trouble and mischief.

Good grades = good career. The problem is, ~~it is~~ it can be hard to get good grades in today's chaotic school environment. The best way is to associate with those people with good work ethics and determination to exceed academically. My best friend has a 4.0 GPA. He influences me, I influence him, and we keep pushing each other to both ~~the~~ attain straight A's. This positive peer pressure may be one of the most important factors to creating a good career and future.

Statistics show that most young adults addicted to drugs are so because of their friend's influence, in other words, they wanted to "fit in." I bet that if there ~~was~~ was another poll taken, most young adults who have kept total abstinence from drugs did so because they had friends and peers around them who did so. Friends are a huge influence one way or the other in the matter of drugs and illegals. Having positive peer pressure can help keep you out of trouble and away from illegal

Peer pressure is the key to get through the maze of school and into life. Whether that influence is positive or negative depends on the type of friends you choose to associate with. Friends involved in extra-curricular activities, friends with good grades, and friends that keep away from illegals can ensure a good future.

**PS4****918**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

T: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

Peer pressure can be positive because it affects most things we do like the way we dress, act, and more things we do everyday. Usually peer pressure is good and not too bad. The good thing about it is that usually everyone goes with the good and the negative ~~pre~~ peer pressure gets rejected. You can be pressured to buy a certain brand of clothes or shoes and it won't hurt you or anyone else. To act a certain way if your annoying and your friends are trying to make you stop and they tell you everyday. They are pressuring you to act normal and not crazy. That's good peer pressure because they are helping you to do better.

Your peers will usually encourage you to do things that will make you a better

person or will help you ~~become a~~  
~~to~~ do good in the things you do.

**PS4****919**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer Pressure is a very dangerous thing. Peer pressure is when students or friends force you to do something that you don't want to do. Peer pressure has affected many people's lives and has caused some people to go to jail. Peer pressure is a negative because it can force kids to do drugs or go vandalize someone's property.

I use to have some friends at

School that were great

people. We always use to run around together and have a great time. But one day they began run into some kids that were doing drugs. They almost immediately got hooked and all of this was caused by peer pressure. The last time that I saw them, they were in jail. That was one of the worst things that had ever happened to me.

Peer pressure also has people vandalize things, like apartment buildings, houses, or even

play grounds. Sometimes they ~~don't~~ don't vandalize bad things like sometimes they might toilet paper a house or let a dog poop in there yard. But after that it goes to far. Peer pressure takes its toll when people begin to spray paint parks and houses. Kids think its fun but it takes the owner days to clean up.

So the next time your friends try to talk you into something that you dont want to do, dont do it because peer pressure is a bad thing. Kids all over the U.S.A go to jail because of what there friends told them to do.

**PS4****935**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

## The Crazy Walk Home

I think peer pressure is positive. Just the fact that if you do get peer pressured into doing something and you learn a lesson.

+ and I were in town renting a movie for my sleepover. So we started walking home from town which is two miles of walking in the sun.

On our way back to the house with all of our stuff from the store. We were getting pretty tired from walking. Then this truck out of no where and about hit us. If we wouldn't ever of moved we would be road kill. So we got pretty mad. I said, "I know where that guy lives". Another thing he said to me and I that we should ruin that guy's six-wheeler.

We got to the guys house. We looked around to make sure no one was there, we can ruin his six-wheeler for pay back for running us off the road. We snuck in the garage

were the six-wheeler was. and grabbed a hammer off the shelf. The told me to grab a hammer, but I said no. They said come on Mussy.

I got a hammer and started braking everything on the six-wheeler. We were having so much fun until he pulled in the driveway. My heart stopped for a minute but he went inside. So we snuck out with hammers in our hand so we threw over the tracks for the railroad. The ran back to my house watched the movie and went to bed. The next morning the cops called and asked if we ruined his six-wheeler so we admitted it to see if we could get off the hook. We had to go to court and got off kind of easy just pay for the damages and community services.

In all we had a blast except paying for the damage and community services. So peer pressure is good cause it taught me a lesson. I'll never do that again cause peer pressure showed me what could happen.

**PS4****943**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

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Art of Song and Voice

Almost everyone has tucked deep within the darkest, most private corners of their hearts, a secret desire. For some it might be lacing up the ballet shoes and gliding across the dance floor, contradicting social views and joining the chess club, or even something as significant as serving in their nation's army. However my hidden passion has always been the art of song and voice - singing. Although not a skill I cared to flaunt, I often preformed for the intent audience of my bathroom mirror. Yet with each passing day, the struggle grew more exhausting to keep the ~~the~~ voice within me muted.

On one ordinary day, passing the choir room on my usual route, I caught a furtive glance of a brightly colored flyer flapping on the door. Large bold letters read "Choir auditions today." For several moments I stare at the announcement with the dream of music and spotlights once again consuming me. A painful snap back to my conservative reality, alerts me of the familiar face of my best friend confronting me. "Why don't you try out?" is her blunt but reasonable question. Immediately my mind begins pouring out the previously formulated excuses, but before I can utter a

word, my friend is already sheparding me into the small, side, office where my fate is to be decided. After several nerve wracking moments I appear at the doorway once again and my elation is so great I can barely whisper, "I made it!"

Thanks to quick action and determination of my peer and friend, I was able to realize that I could sing for more lively ears. It was this "positive peer pressure" that gave me that extra nudge I required to make that final step from dream to reality. I was due to this push that I could step beyond my internal boundaries and therefore broaden my horizons. My friend motivated me to try and also taught me how to demand an effort from myself without others assistance.

Now, each and everyday I truly have the privilege to attend choir and appreciate the gift of music without any obstacles to hinder my progress. I now stand before more than mirrors to sing and my voice is almost never silent. In fact more often then not I am now told to stop singing so loud! All of this due to the simple loving insistance of a friend.

**PS4****959**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

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### Peer Pressure

When you're growing up, there can be a ton of peer pressure. Some peer pressure can be good, but mostly, it's not. Kids these days will do almost anything to be with the "popular crowd". Some kids already know all about peer pressure and they know how to avoid it but most don't. It can get you into a very sticky situation.

One example of peer pressure is the pressure to smoke. First of all, smoking can kill you in many different ways. It is really bad for your health. Second, smoking hurts others around you more than you think. Thirdly, you can get into a lot of trouble for smoking. You can get into trouble with your parents and your teachers.

Another example is drugs. First, drugs are horrible and can kill you very easily. People are pressured into doing drugs all the time. They can definitely interfere with school. Drugs can mess with your head and then you can fail at your work. Second, they can get you in a ton of trouble with family, friends, teachers, and the police.

Last example of peer pressure is the pressure of popularity. Some kids thrive to be popular and will do almost anything to become popular. First of all, kids can be pressured into stealing something because they think it will make them "cool". Second, someone could be pressured into making fun of someone else. Third, vandalizing is another pressured subject. Kids will vandalize something because they might think it's cool or even funny.

With those examples said, we can all see that peer pressure is a very negative thing. Everyone needs to learn how to avoid it. If everyone just gave in to peer pressure, then our world would be a crazy place. So people of all ages just need to fight back and say "NO!" to bad peer pressure.

**PS4****980**

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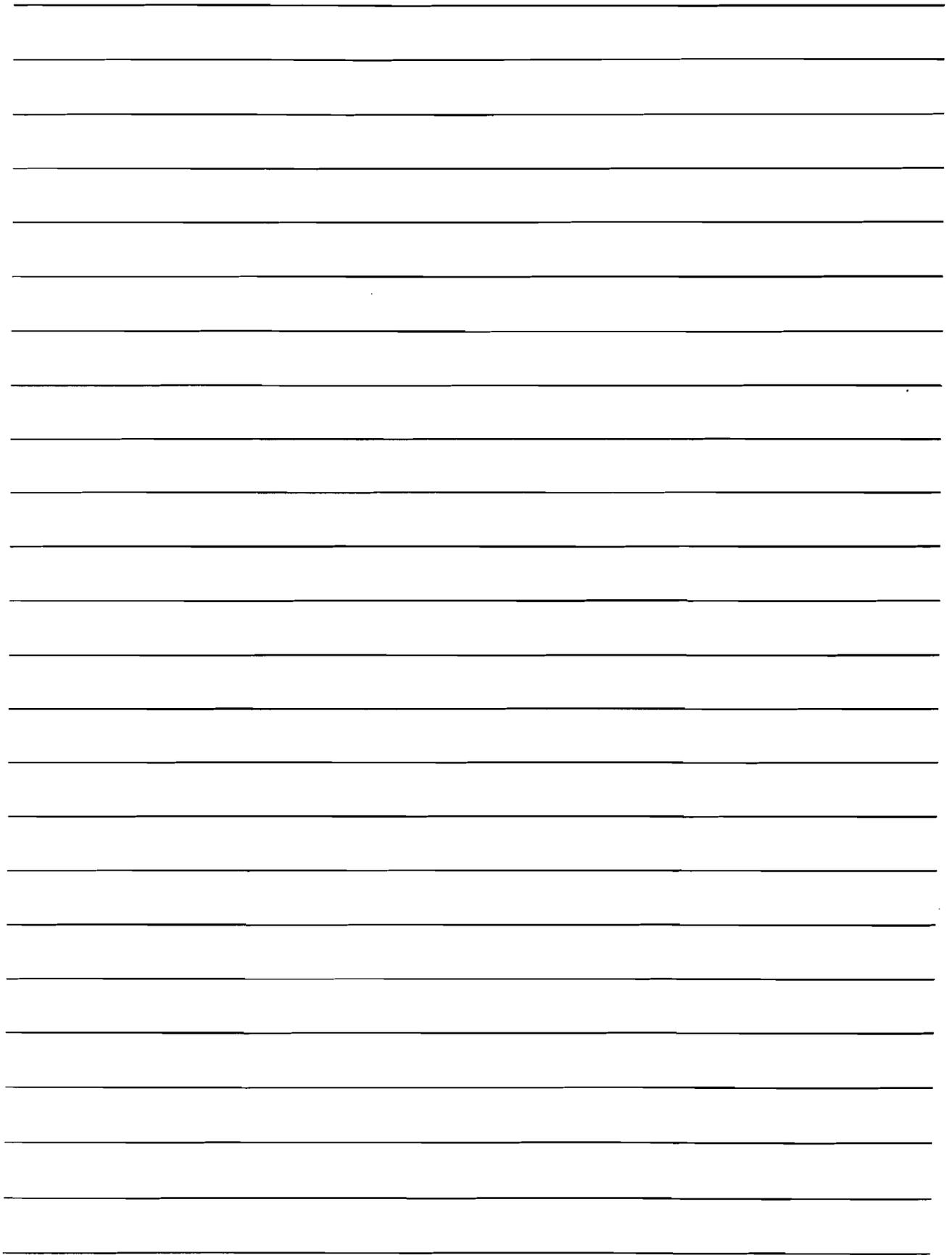
ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer Pressure can be positive or negative. Like  
 the other day and I skipped school  
~~the other day~~ He said "I'll skip if you  
 do." I said "I'll skip school if you do."  
 So we skipped school ~~out~~ in trouble. That's a  
 negative peer pressure. A positive peer pressure  
 is lets say lets go snowboarding today.  
 All right but im only going to go if you  
 ask your mom cause she sets mat when  
 you do something and you dont tell her  
 what your going to do ok ill ask her  
 then call you later.



**PS5****909**

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**ROUND 1****ROUND 2****FINAL**

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T: \_\_\_\_\_

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Peer pressure can be a positive or a negative thing. It really depends on how it is presented, or expressed.

For example, someone may ask you to start eating healthy and exercise daily to stay in good shape; however, if someone tells you to do drugs it's not anywhere close to positive peer pressure. So you have to think about what your peers (sp?) are asking you to do. Positive peer pressure is ~~too~~ usually good for you in some way, whatever you end up doing should not harm you in any way.

Now negative peer pressure is ~~and~~ a whole different story. People pressure you to do something and if it's bad they tell you to do it or you won't be cool or you can't hang out with them etc., but

it's probably something that can harm you. It is not good in any way. For example, in the seventh grade a friend of mine was pressured into drinking, while she was on an athletic code. She ended up giving in to peer pressure and getting kicked off the basketball team; therefore, that harmed someone which makes it negative peer pressure. There is ~~it~~ ~~a~~ isn't one situation I can't think about that turned out good in the end that deals with negative peer pressure.

So, therefore peer pressure can be either positive or negative. To make sure peer pressure is positive or negative you can think about what will happen in the end and decide from there. But then again peer pressure could be a bit little of both, so always be aware and cautious (sp?) of peer pressure.

**PS5****921**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1****ROUND 2****FINAL**

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Peer pressure is a very negative influence on a lot of people in the society today. Peer pressure creates a chain reaction of regretful and bad things if a person gives into it. Peer pressure also can make a person who has been peer pressured, apply it to others as well, creating more and more negative cases of peer pressured people. Also, peer pressure can ruin people's lives, not only the person engaging in bad things from peer pressure, but that person's family and friends lives can be ruined as well.

Firstly, Peer pressure will get people into very bad things if that person would give into it. Negative peer pressure gets even the best people into bad things like: drugs, alcohol, and horrible addictions. And in the society today, many people, young and old, are drinking or doing drugs because they got hooked on it from negative peer pressure.

Negative peer pressure not only will get people

hooked on bad, regretful substances, negative peer pressure will expand rapidly all over the earth because people who have been peer pressured, and given into it, most likely will apply negative peer pressure to other people. And then, there will be so many people who have given into peer pressure, that not a lot of "clean" or drug and alcohol free people, will be left in the society.

Finally, ~~p~~ negative peer pressure can ruin people's lives. If people give into negative peer pressure, they can engage in bad things, and start hanging out with the wrong people. Negative peer pressure can go as far as kids dropping out of school because they get hooked on bad things from peer pressure. But not only will the person who engaged in peer pressure's life be ruined, but so will their family and friends. Because they have to suffer and watch their child, or brother, sister, or best friend, throw their life away from negative peer pressure.

**PS5****928**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

I have learned alot from family and friends about peer pressure. I have learned how it will affect your life good or bad. I have heard lots of storys how it has cost people their lives. I have also heard how it has saved and helped lives. Either case think before you act.

I'm going to tell you why you should be careful of peer pressure. This story happend to a friend not to long ago. My friend was a very good guy. As a kid he went to church had good grades, and obeyed his parents. When he was eleven years old, his dad got a job offer in Idaho. To make a long story short they moved. He was the new kid. He chose some bad kids for friends. Those friends changed his life forever. They got him to drink alcohol, do drugs, steal and steal. Then he desided to settle down and get married. Then he had a kid. Then he had some trable with bills and stuff. So his he

Started to drink again. His wife left him and he committed suicide.

My brother helped a family in a positive way he pressured them to go to church and they came. They have totally changed they stopped drinking, had a better relationship and felt better because of the peer pressure my brother gave them.

So choose your friends ~~care~~ carefully.

And if you're going to listen to peer pressure make sure you think before you act.

2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment**PS5****939**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

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ROUND 2

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FINAL

I can remember countless times in my youth when I made stupid decisions ~~like~~ like kicking a soccer ball at my window (it shattered) or going off a huge jump on my snowboard with only one foot strapped in. All these decisions were made to either impress people or to prove I wasn't "chicken". I always know better in those kinds of situations but yet, my actions tell otherwise. I am not proud that I let people pressure me into doing stupid things. <sup>and</sup> Although peer pressure isn't always bad, it can definitely have negative impacts. Last summer, I learned a lesson that will probably make me resist <sup>negative</sup> peer pressure for the rest of my life.

Last year during the summer, I was visiting my eighteen year old cousin who I desperately wanted to like me. I was always trying to look good in front of her so when she asked me if I wanted to go to a party, I jumped at the chance. I didn't inquire as to who would be there or what would happen; that was my first mistake. When we got there the first things I noticed were the dull thumping of the speakers and a guy trying to ride a bicycle off the roof on a ramp half a foot wide. He was unbelievably drunk but at the time, I didn't understand the real effects of drinking and was unable to comprehend why anyone would do something so stupid.

I stood staring as the guy landed on his head but then my cousin called

to me impatiently and I rushed inside after her. Beer everywhere, dirty dancing, people making out and guys running around in gymb clothes were the first images I saw inside. I stood in shock as my cousin joined the crowd of drunk noisy people on the dancefloor with a beer in hand. Against better judgement, I tried to go off alone but instead, I was carried by my cousin and an unknown guy to the roof where a group of people had gathered.

They handed me a BMX trick bike and led me to their ramp that had been built leading down to the lawn. Everyone started yelling ~~but~~ <sup>and</sup> then, in midst of things, I saw my cousin telling me to ride the bike off the roof. I looked at her and saw the girl I had worshipped ever since I could remember. I saw my idol. It was at that moment I decided to do it. I was going to prove to all these people, and especially her, that I could do it even though my gut feeling told me it would not turn out well.

~~Crunch~~ Turns out, my gut feeling was right. Crunch went my arm as it snapped and I passed out. From what I heard, my cousin had a pretty rough time explaining what happened to my mom. I really regret that night because I was forced to sit out of half of the soccer season but mainly because I never trusted my cousin again. Gone was the responsible college volleyball star that I had so admired and in its place was someone who had taken advantage of me. I don't hate her nor would I take that night back because I learned a valuable lesson: never give into <sup>negative</sup> peer pressure when your better judgement tells you otherwise. That disastrous night, I learned to think for myself and you don't need to feel pressure to impress people because, in the end, they probably aren't the ones worth impressing.

2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

**PS5**

**972**

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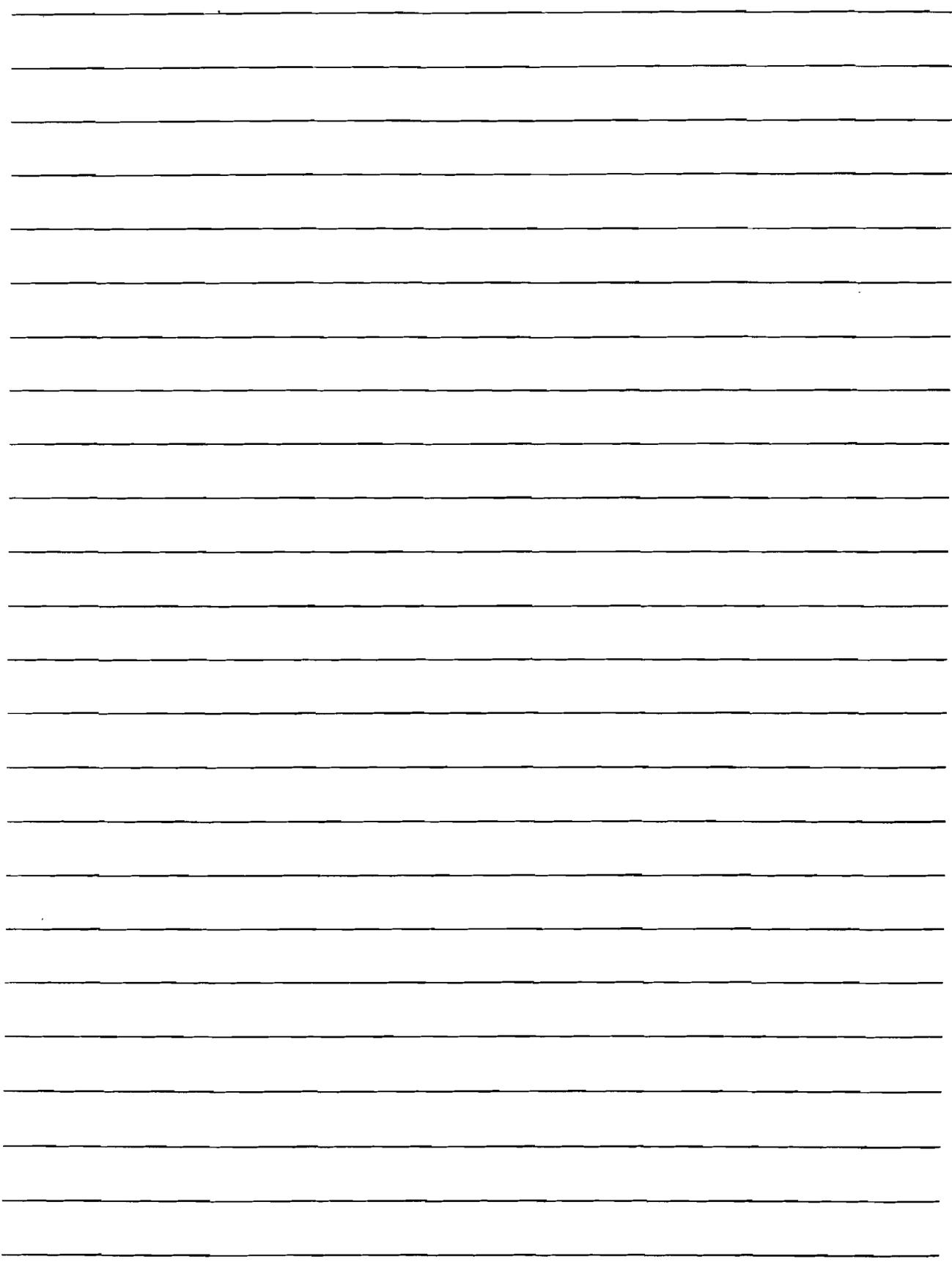
**ROUND 1**

**ROUND 2**

**FINAL**

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

I'm writing positive peer pressure about my life. My friend aren't to bad of friend they usually fell me I good bet I'm can do better. My friend and I play X-box a lot.



2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

**PS5**

**981**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

**ROUND 1**

**ROUND 2**

**FINAL**

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Alrighty well I have to be honest with you.

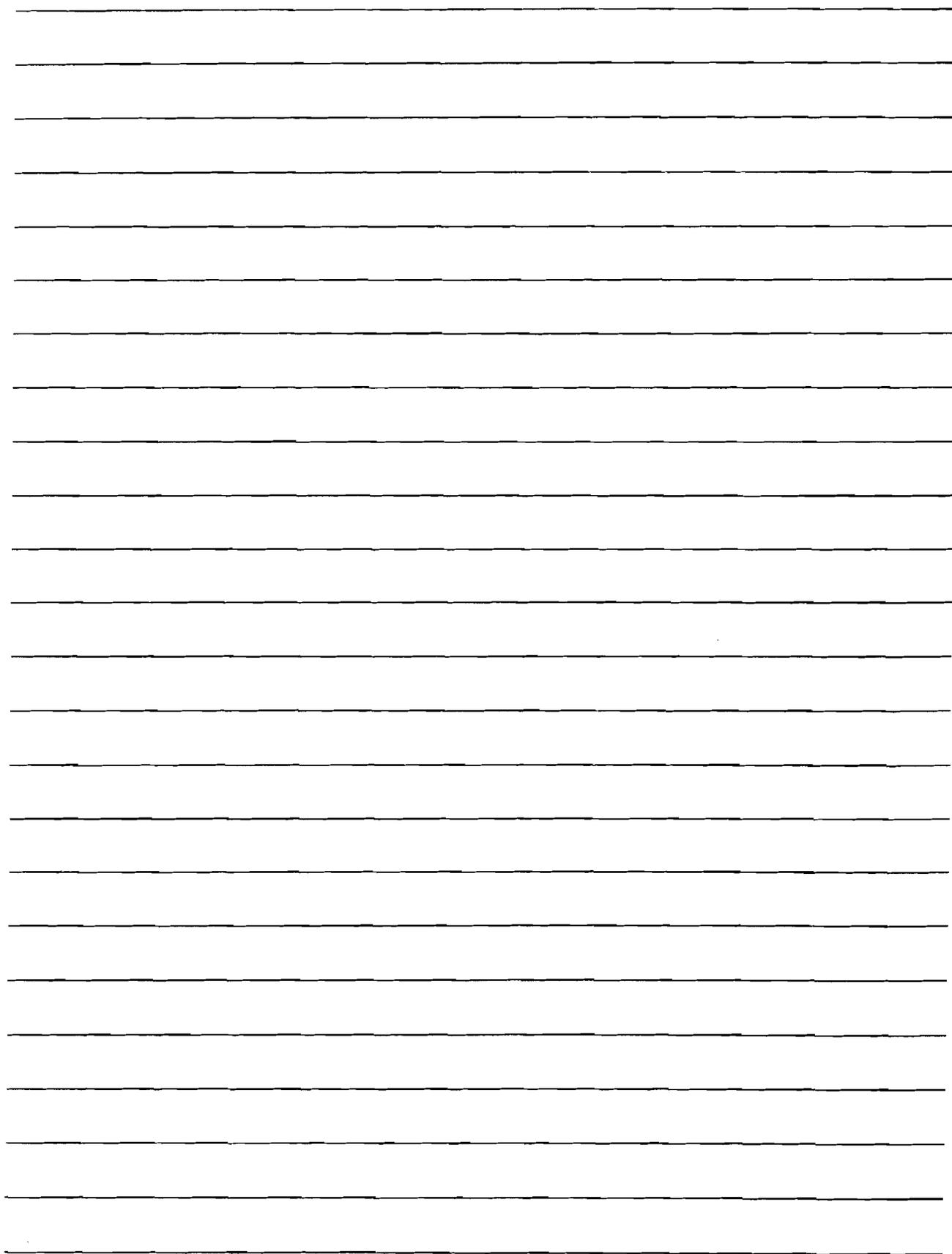
I really dont under stand on what peer pressure is. If I am to guess on what it is, I think that I am being pressured right now, how that I to write this assessment.

That how I have to write this whole thing in under ninety minuxes. I mean WOW! I dont even know what peer pressure is. and the fact that I have to write about it. ITS crazy!

So, like give me a shot at is assessment and hope that I do good on it.

To my under standings. Peer Pressure, is the state of being forced by having to do something in the act of being positive or negative. So, I am guessing that your whole life is being pressured on not to fail, but to be successful.

What you dont believe me?



**PS6****924**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

This essay is about peer pressure, which is something that happens to everyone at one point or another. It helps us get <sup>used to</sup> ~~ready~~ the changes in life and gives us more privileges.

One of the good things about peer pressure is that it gives us new privileges in life and helps us get to ~~to~~ know the world better. There are also some negative things about peer pressure. Many teens are not ready for peer pressure, and ~~do~~ do not like the changes. This is bad because many teens think they can solve it by committing suicide. But as you and I know this is not the ~~the~~ answer. The answer is to accept these <sup>changes</sup> ~~changes~~ and to get used to it.

Peer pressure is something that happens to everyone, instead of running away from it, we need

to face ~~the~~ ~~this~~ ~~problem~~, it.

2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

<p><b>PS6</b></p> <p><b>948</b></p>	<p>STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA</p>		
	<p>ROUND 1</p> <p>T: ___ R: ___</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>ROUND 2</p> <p>T: ___ R: ___</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>FINAL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>

My world was spinning away into the oblivion. I could feel cold, enticing fingers dragging me down to the darkness. The music was betraying like a drum against my head, and the words of my so-called friends were distant and ~~also~~ fuzzy as though they were sucked up into a fearsome, raging storm. Moments before tumbling down into the comforting darkness, few clear words slipped through my head, what was I thinking? Ever since that night, I have always remembered the negative influence peer pressure has had on me and how drastically it has changed my life. Here is my story.

It was a chilly, ~~brak~~ summer evening and the wind was madly spinning its way through every rock and cranny. My best friend and I were preparing to leave my house after hours of making an makeover and wading through the sea of clothes on my floor. We had been giggling over our latest crushes the entire time, wondering if they would be at the party. When we finally arrived, the speakers were blaring, the people were dancing, and there was a strange, bitter ~~scat~~ taste in the air. Then, it happened. My

crush scuntered over with a beer in his hand, slipped his hand around my waist and whispered seductively into my ear, "Wanna drink, baby?" I kindly refused but as the night went on and I was the only sober one I felt like a fish out of water, and so I asked my crush to bring me a drink. He excitedly complied with a knowing smile and rushed off to find me something. I stared guiltily at my hands, realizing what I had just done. Little did I know, however, that that would not be the first time I gave into peer pressure that night.

When my crush returned with a shot of vodka in his hand, I ordered myself over and over again to only drink one. Only a few minutes later though a haze was buzzing annoyingly around my head, making it hard to think. Then when my crush brought me another shot, I silently poured the fiery liquid down my throat. My crush brought me two more and this time I excitedly drank them. He then lit a candle and the room with both arms around me, and began leading me somewhere I did not think I could have ever processed what was happening when he led me into the nearest bedroom. I then heard the lock click shut, confirming the second time that night I would give in to peer pressure.

Over the next few days I could do nothing but dwell on that night, tears leaked constantly from my eyes. They were begging to be released but I would not let them out.

As you can see I was devastated by how easily I had given into peer pressure.

2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

**PS6**

**960**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

"Hey you, come smoke with us." This is an example of peer pressure, you may have heard of it? It is where your peers or people the same age as you pressure you into doing something with them. Peer pressure doesn't always have to be a bad thing though, it can also be good.

Peer pressure can be good because it can help you become more active instead of sitting all alone doing nothing all the time. Kids that sit alone need people like that to put some excitement in their lives. They need to get them to think outside of the box & have (responsible) fun for once. Having fun while being responsible is easy & it teaches kids the difference between good & bad.

The other form of peer pressure unfortunately,

is also probably the most common or most heard of. This kind of peer pressure is bad. It gets kids into trouble most of the time because they want to fit in with the "cool" kids. What most kids don't know is that you can be "cool" without drinking or doing drugs. There are however a few who can stand up for themselves and say NO. Even though this can be hard it is the right thing to do.

So if you ever hear the words "Hey come smoke with us" walk away. This will ensure that you don't screw up your life as well as the lives of others.

**PS6****970**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

ROUND 1

ROUND 2

FINAL

T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_ T: \_\_\_ R: \_\_\_

Peer pressure. It's all around us, especially in our teenage years. In my personal opinion, no good can come of peer pressure. Wait, no, that's not true. The only good that comes from peer pressure is that we try harder to do better. But even that has some negative effects. Peer pressure brings about awful things, such as, conformity, cliques, and things you will deeply regret later.

Conformity is an awful side effect of the peer pressure disease. Some people have the delusional thinking that conformity is good, and that it brings unity. WRONG! Conformity take people and their beliefs and forces them to change. Succumbing to conformity will allow you to lose yourself, your individuality. Our differences make us who we are. I myself try to steer clear of conformity, I'd rather be "odd" as "~~weird~~" than "normal".

Part of conformity is cliques. Cliques are an awful, no, a terrible experience for many teenagers, especially during their Jr. High and Highschool School lives. People in cliques try to do exactly as their "friends", while people outside the clique try desperately to ~~belong~~ join. I have a group of friends, not a clique, ~~at~~ we call ourselves The ~~yes~~ yes with a 'k'. The

don't force people to conform, but let them be themselves. We are people that don't believe in cliques and anyone is welcome to join. We hang out, we are friends because of who we are, not what we look like or what we do. A clique, on the other hand, they pressure their members, and ultimately hurt themselves.

Yet another ~~flow~~ in terrible after effect of peer pressure is when it causes us to do things we'll regret later. Drugs, drinking, smoking, stealing and having sex, are just a few examples. Peer pressure leads us into situation where it's do what everyone else is doing, or you're a loser and a chicken. Against your better judgment, peer pressure makes you do things ~~we~~ you will regret later.

Peer pressure. It's a disease raging through our schools. But what can we do to cure it? Well, it starts with the infected students. They must learn to do the right things, even if it means being 'uncool'. In my opinion if you fight this disease and stick up for your beliefs, it makes you all the cooler.

2006-07 Idaho 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Direct Writing Assessment

**PS6**

**987**

STUDENTS DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

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FINAL

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Pressure can be good or bad pressure is  
what we live all the day to a fre wuh evn  
thaw we dot how it of when not Paerh  
a fath ahof. Pressure is bad be cas it  
can ksit sam wuh or it giles sam wuh.  
Pressure is good ih make ves it cah  
alwep sam wuh.

